

The Aluminum Situation

Department of Economics and Statistics

March 1984

Total Net Shipments Up 15.8 Percent

Net shipments of aluminum ingot and mill products in January 1984, at an estimated 1,140 million pounds were 15.8% higher than shipments of 984 million pounds in January 1983.

Domestic shipments totalled 1,046 million pounds for January 1984, representing an increase of 24.6% from the 839 million pounds shipped in January 1983.

Exports of 94 million pounds were down 34.9% vs. 145 million pounds for January 1983.

Primary Production Rate Up 40.9 Percent

U.S. primary aluminum production averaged 12,360 short tons daily during February 1984 compared with an average 8,771 tons a day in February 1983.

Thru January 1984

	Jan. 1984	Jan. 1983	% Change
Mill Products	940	814	+15.4
Ingot	200	170	+17.9
Total	1,140	984	+15.8
Less Exports	(94)	(145)	-34.9
Domestic Total	1,046	839	+24.6

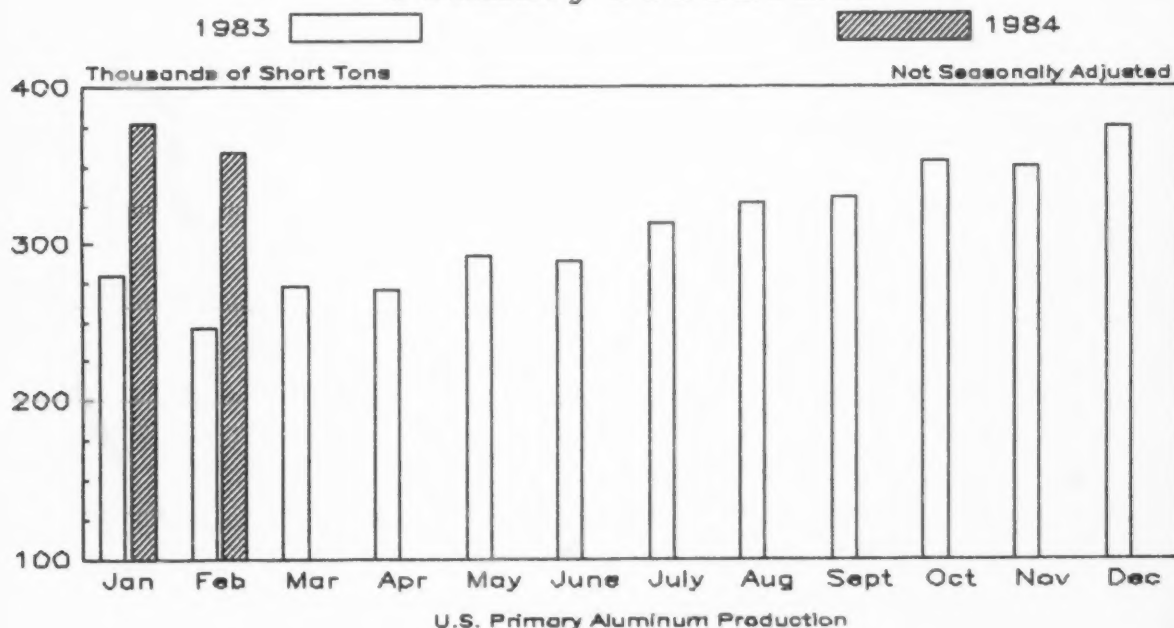
Millions of Pounds

Source: Latest two months estimated by the Aluminum Association. Previous data-Bureau of the Census.

The annual rate of production in February 1984 was 4,523,754 tons, compared to 3,201,578 tons in February 1983. The January 1984 production rate was 4,455,224 tons.

Actual production in February 1984 was 358,440 tons.

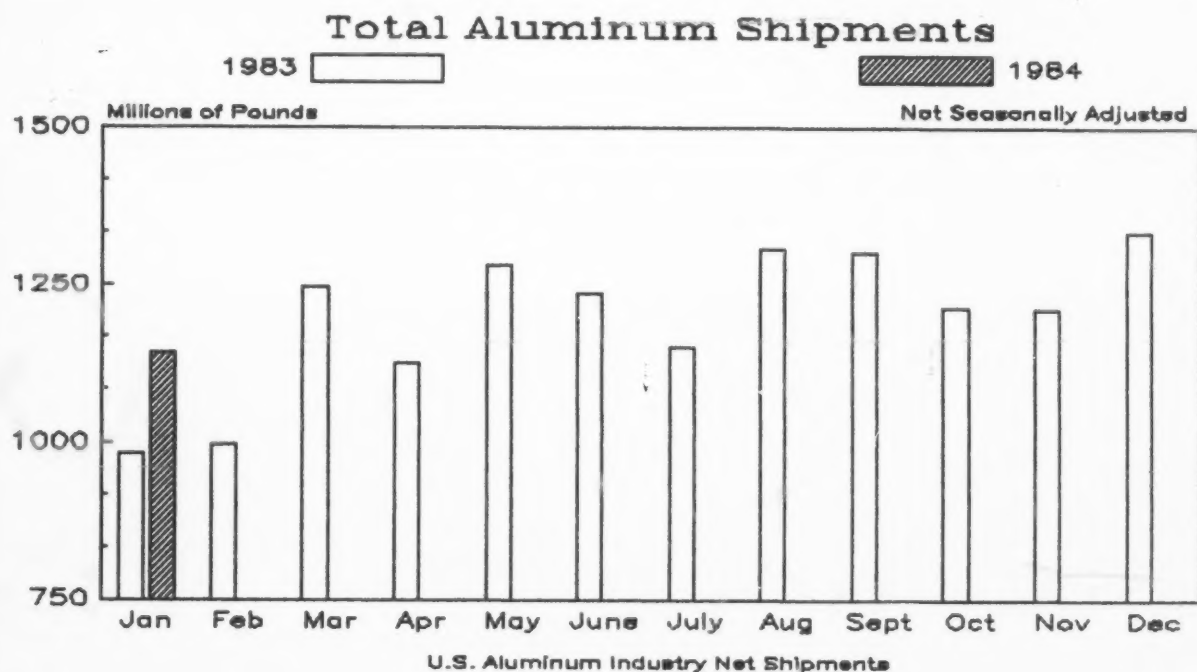
Primary Production



Aluminum Association total industry estimates are based on information reported by members, which is aggregated by the Association and then expanded to total industry data utilizing an expansion ratio that attempts to reflect the relationship of reporters to the total industry. While the Association believes that its statistical procedures and methods are reliable, it does not warrant the accuracy or completeness of the data. All data contained herein are subject to revision.

January Shipments Up 15.8 Percent Over Year Ago

January 1984 net shipments at an estimated 1,140 million pounds were 15.8% higher than January 1983 shipments of 984 million pounds. Domestic shipments at an estimated 1,046 million pounds were 24.6% higher than a year ago. Extrusions were up 50.8%.



Net Shipments

(Millions of Pounds)

	1984 January	1983 January	% Change 1984 v. 1983
Sheet	500.0	443.6	+12.7
Plate	20.0	17.9	+11.7
Foil	69.0	63.2	+10.9
Rod, Bar & Wire	24.0	18.6	+12.9
Electrical Conductor	48.0	50.1	- 4.2
Extruded Products	210.0	159.2	+50.8
Welded Tube	5.0	3.4	+47.1
Powder & Paste	5.0	6.6	-24.2
Forgings & Impacts	11.0	8.9	+23.6
Net Imports of Mill			
Products (Total) (a)	48.0	43.0	+11.6
Total Mill Products	940.0	814.5	+15.4
Ingot	200.0 (b)	169.6	+17.9
TOTAL INDUSTRY SHIPMENTS	1,140.0	984.1	+15.8
Exports	(94.2)	(144.7)	-34.9
TOTAL DOMESTIC SHIPMENTS	1,045.8	839.4	+24.6

*Latest two months estimated by the Aluminum Association.
Previous data-Bureau of the Census and Department of Commerce.

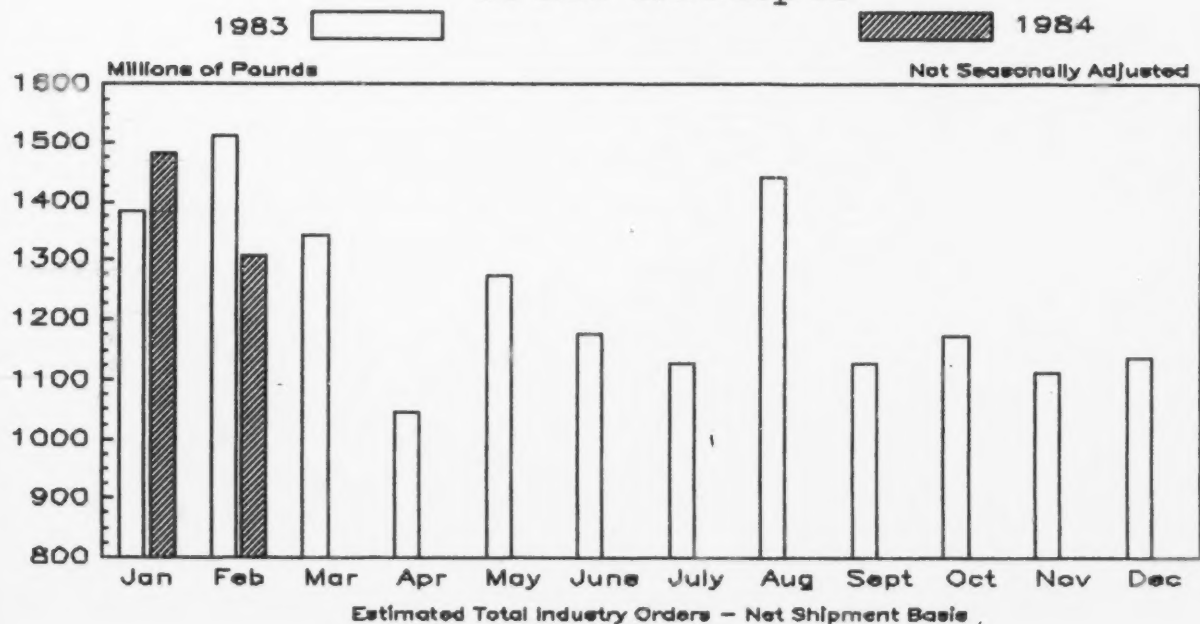
(a) Not included in product data above.

(b) Sufficient data not available for reliable estimate. Implicit in this item is a 10 to 25% variation.
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February Order Receipts Decreased 13.4% Over Year Ago

Estimated net new order receipts for February 1984 of 1,308 million pounds decreased 13.4% from February 1983 orders of 1,511 million pounds. February domestic mill product orders were 13.0% below a year ago. Total orders for the first 2 months of 1984 of 2,791 million pounds were down 3.6% from the 1983 total of 2,894 million pounds.

Order Receipts



Order Receipts (Millions of Pounds)

	1984 February	1983 February	1984 2 months	1983 2 months	% Change 1984 v. 1983
Can Stock (a)	256.2	394.5	623.2	643.7	- 3.18
Sheet & Plate, Other	376.7	423.8	725.1	765.7	- 5.30
Foil	59.3	72.2	133.1	147.2	- 9.65
Rod, Bar & Wire	25.1	26.2	48.9	50.9	- 3.93
Electrical Conductor	73.5	48.4	134.8	117.3	+14.92
Extruded Products	230.7	216.0	423.4	380.8	+11.19
Powder & Paste	8.1	7.5	15.0	16.3	- 7.98
Forgings & Impacts	8.6	4.4	20.7	12.1	+71.07
Domestic Mill Products	1,038.2	1,193.0	2,124.2	2,134.0	- 0.46
Ingot (Total)	172.4	256.8	489.3	579.4	-15.55
TOTAL DOMESTIC	1,210.6	1,449.8	2,613.4	2,713.4	- 3.69
Exports	97.2	61.2	177.2	180.2	- 1.66
TOTAL ALL PRODUCTS	1,307.8	1,511.0	2,790.6	2,893.6	- 3.56

Source: The Association estimates total industry orders, based on weekly reports by members of new orders (less cancellations) received. The Association expands these data to total industry utilizing an expansion ratio that attempts to reflect the relationship of reporters to the total industry. Weekly data are available upon request.

(a) Import orders included in Sheet and Plate, Other.

*Latest month.
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Inventories Increased in January 1984

Producer inventories increased an estimated 125 million pounds in the January 1984 from year-end 1983. Integrated producers' stocks went up 105 million pounds and non-integrateds' stocks increased 20 million pounds.

Month-End Aluminum Inventories By Type of Producer Figures in Millions of Pounds

<u>Month</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Integrated</u>	<u>Smelters</u>	<u>Non-Integrated</u>
Dec 80	5,076	4,018	261	797
Dec 81	6,607	5,542	266	798
Dec 82	6,199	5,224	216	759
Jan 83	6,129	5,205	165	759
Feb 83	6,093	5,152	181	760
Mar 83	5,892	4,914	199	779
Apr 83	5,744	4,774	189	781
May 83	5,579	4,596	190	793
Jun 83	5,439	4,431	199	809
Jul 83	5,472	4,453	193	826
Aug 83	5,375	4,345	192	838
Sep 83	5,258	4,209	202	848
Oct 83	5,296	4,260	198	838
Nov 83	5,216	4,154	190	872
Dec 83	5,046	3,990	190	866
Jan 84	5,171	4,095	190	886

*Latest two months estimated by Aluminum Association. Previous data-Bureau of the Census. Inventories include ingot, mill products and scrap.
Early estimates are available approximately the 5th working day each month; however, there is a charge for this special service. Contact the Aluminum Association Department of Economics and Statistics for details.

Imports and Exports (Millions of Pounds)

		<u>1984 January</u>	<u>1983 January</u>	<u>% Change 1983 v. 1982</u>
Imports	Mill Products	71.4	48.4	+47.5
	Ingot	141.0	106.1	+33.0
	Total	212.4	154.5	+37.5
	Scrap (+ dross)	16.5	8.4	+96.4
	Grand Total	228.9	162.9	+40.5
Exports	Mill Products	48.7	32.5	+49.9
	Ingot	48.9	112.2	-56.4
	Total	97.6	144.7	-32.6
	Scrap	45.2	26.9	+67.8
	Grand Total	142.8	171.6	-16.8
Net Imports		+89.5	(8.7)	-

Source: Department of Commerce, Industry Trade Administration and Bureau of the Census. Excludes backed foil.